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NRO review(s) completed.

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NASA review(s) completed.

22 JAN 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: U-2Cs to NACA

1. Major Hoffman of the NRO Staff called me at the request of Dr. Naka to ascertain the validity of a proposed response by NASA should a question be raised by the press regarding Gary Powers' employment by NACA. The response proposed would say, "As you know Gary Powers claimed as part of his cover that he worked for NACA. This was later denied by the White House." I called to Major Hoffman's attention the fact that Gary Powers did not claim he worked for NACA but rather this stemmed from a press statement by Walt Bonney (NACA's public relations officer) immediately following the loss of Powers' aircraft but before we knew the outcome of the downing. I related the events surrounding the shoot down and the role of the White House, NACA and State Department's press officers.

2. I suggested to Major Hoffman that NASA review the minutes of the Hearing before the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee on 1 June 1960 when Hugh Dryden of NACA called to Congress' attention that NACA did indeed do legitimate air weather research and, in fact, three unclassified reports were published based on U-2 gathered information.

3. Major Hoffman said he would be in touch with NASA and suggest that they gather the background relative to the Hearings and what NACA said following the shoot down. Further, the proposed release and answers would be coordinated between the NRO, NASA, OSA and the 40 Committee.

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[Redacted]
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DD/S&T

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